

CHRISTIANITY TODAY WRITER MOCKS BIBLICAL MORALITY

June 3, 2000 (Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org) -- Lauren Winner, a staff writer for Christianity Today, mocks traditional biblical morality in her article "Sex and the Single Evangelical." This was published on Beliefnet.com, a web site dedicated to religious topics. Winner is the books editor for Beliefnet. Columnists for Beliefnet include retired Episcopal Bishop John Spong, who believes homosexuals should be ordained ministers and who denies practically every doctrine of the Bible, including the virgin birth and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Winner begins her article "Sex and the Single Evangelical" by describing a personal experience. She and a male friend named David are drinking wine and eating crackers in the home of another friend named Sarah. The latter asks where Winner and David were the previous evening, and they tell her that they were in a hotel room alone on a king-size bed. Sarah responds in amazement and calls Winner an "evangelical whore." Winner goes on to mock the slogan "True Love Waits" (which challenges young people to remain virgins until marriage). She says, "This slogan might work when you're 15. Ten years later, catch-phrases don't really do the trick." She claims there are "thousands" of unmarried evangelicals who ignore the Bible's command to be celibate outside of marriage. She describes a girl who lost her virginity at the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College. She calls for "an honest conversation about sexuality" and an investigation "into what the Bible has to say about sex."

This illustrates the moral apostasy of Evangelicalism today. There is no need to reinvestigate what the Bible says about sexual relations outside of marriage. Many good sermons and books have already "honestly" considered this issue. This is a simple matter that was understood plainly by Bible-believing churches of the past. Consider these simple scriptures:

"Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14).

"But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat" (1 Corinthians 5:11).

"Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband" (1 Corinthians 7:1,2).

"But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints . . . For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God" (Ephesians 5:3,5).

"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience" (Colossians 3:5,6).

"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness" (1 Thessalonians 4:3-7).

"Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22).

"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4).

These Scriptures leave no doubt about God's will. Sexual relations outside of marriage are sinful and will be judged by God. Unmarried people should not even touch one another in any sensual manner. If there is no touching, there will be adultery or fornication. Those who cannot contain should marry. Immoral lusts are to be resisted by the power of the Holy Spirit and substituted with righteous living.

Beware of the Christianity Today type of Evangelicalism. It is more concerned about intellectualism than simple Bible faith and obedience.